Meeting held by SC/ST Officers

2797. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 400 Class-I Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe officers had a meeting in the Constitution Club in New Delhi on the 11th March, 1995;

(b) the Ministries, Departments who have violated the instructions issued by the Department of Personnel from time to time to avoid harassment and discrimination to the officers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(c) whether any action has been taken against the erring officers for violation of those instructions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA)): (a) A report has appeared in this regard in the Times of India of 12th March, 1995. Enquiries made reveal that a Seminar was held by SC/ST officers in Constitution Club of India on 4th March 1995 on Social Justice.

(b) and (c) Instructions to all Ministries already exist vide O.M. No. 36026/3/85-Estt(SCT) dated 26th April 1985 to take action against erring officials promptly. It is the responsibility of the administrative Ministries to take action against erring officials. The information regarding erring officers is not centrally maintained.

Development of vast areas of Wasteland

2798. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE :
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World-wide fund for Nature-India in collaboration with Armed Forces Establishment has identified vast areas of wastelands with Armed Forces to be developed into reserves for flora and fauna;

(b) if so, how many such sites have been identified all over the country indicating State-wise details thereof and the nature of flora and fauna to be raised therein; and

(c) the progress made in that direction so far?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WASTELANDS DEVELOPMENT (COL. RAO RAM SINGH): (a) and (b) The World-Wide Fund for Nature-India and the Centre for Environment Education, Ahmedabad has jointly formulated "Army Bio-diversity Conservation Programme" in consultation with the Army. Under this programme, 20 Army Establishments have been selected with a view to optimising their biological potential. Only one of these establishments falls under the category of wastelands, being a field firing range. The rest of the establishments are either Cantonments, Military formations or depots. The National Wastelands Development Board has recently approved a project under the Grant-in-Aid scheme to develop 1500 hectares of Army wasteland in the K.K. Firing Ranges near Ahmednagar at a total outlay of Rs. 1.45 crores. The project was submitted to NWDB through the Army Foundation for Environment Conservation.

Under this project it is proposed to raise the following species :

1. Neem
2. Subabul
3. Kiker
4. Mango
5. Tamarind
6. Agamia
7. Shisham

In addition the Department of Wastelands Development has sanctioned